

COMMERCIAL AND FINANCIAL

Very Little Trading in Wheat and Prices Decline Materially.

DOOM IN OATS BRACES UP THE MARKET

This Option Touches the Highest Point Recorded Since Last August, and Communicates Its Strength to Other Lines.

CHICAGO, Dec. 29.—Wheat today was apparently held up for a time by a buying flurry in oats. In the last half hour the leading brokers of the bull clique in wheat started to sell some May, and the crowd emulated and in the end surpassed their efforts in that direction. December wheat was left as a decline of 3¢ and May 1¢. Corn declined 3¢. Oats in the end were left at practically yesterday's closing prices.

Wheat was a shade easier at the opening because of a decline of 3¢ at wheat charter in the options. The market had before the opening and the market in consequence ruled firm during the forenoon within narrow fractions of the starting prices. The opening in May was from 94¢ 30c, compared with yesterday's close of 94¢ 20c. The spell of weakness around the opening soon came, and the price went down to 93¢ 30c, the strength which developed in oats affected wheat and the market recovered in a short time to 94¢ 30c and kept close to those trading for a time.

Traders who favored the bear side had learned a lesson from the business tendencies developed yesterday and kept away, and the market was again in a position to demand the market was almost stagnant at times. Chicago receipts were much smaller than estimated the day before. The market was not advanced by 3¢, and out of that it was contract. The total addition for the day to contract stocks in regular elevators was 1,200 bushels, and 1,000 bushels by Mather & Duhm reported 444 cars, against 472 the corresponding day of the previous week and 221 a year ago. The Atlantic port of wheat and flour, 2,000 bushels, to 54,000 bushels, had helped sustain prices.

The estimate of the Argentine exportable surplus circulated yesterday, making it 2,000,000 bushels, was not believed to have been true.

Imports of wheat were 1,000 bushels.

VEGETABLES.

CINCINNATI.—California—DULL; faint.

QUINCES—California, per box, 25¢.

LEMONS—California, stock large, 40¢; small, 25¢.

ONIONS—Per bushel, 60¢.

BEANS—Hand-packed navy, per bushel, \$1.25-\$1.30.

CAULIFLOWER—Stocks good, per box, 15¢.

POTATOES—Home grown, 60¢-80¢; western stock, 70¢.

FRUIT.

CALIFORNIA STRAWBERRIES—Per pint, 25¢.

WHEAT—Firms, No. 2 red, 35¢.

OATS—Firm, No. 2 mixed, 21¢.

RYE—Firm, No. 2, 22¢.

CORN—Active, higher, No. 2 mixed, 38¢.

BUTTER—Firm, No. 2, 25¢.

MEAT.—Lamb, 40¢-50¢; veal, 40¢-50¢.

DRIED FRUITS.

KRAUT—Per bushel, 40¢, half bushel, 35¢.

MAPLE SYRUP—Five-gal. cans, each, 32¢.

LARD—Can pure, 32¢; 32-36 oz., 22¢.

HONEY—Choice white, 12¢; Concord amber, 18¢.

TOBACCO.

CHOCOLATE—Mexican, per box, \$2.25-\$3.50.

LEMONS—Messina, \$1.00-\$1.25.

ANANAS—Large, large stock per bunch, 22¢.

25¢ medium, 17¢.

MISCELLANEOUS.

NUFF—Almonds per lb., the large size, 12¢-13¢.

WHEAT—Firms, No. 2 red, 35¢.

CORN—No. 2 mixed, 21¢.

OATS—No. 2 white, 22¢.

RYE—Firm, No. 2, 22¢.

CIDER—Per half bushel, 22¢.

FRESH MEATS.

DRESSED BEEF—Good native steers, 7¢-10¢.

EGG—Western steers, 7¢; fancy heifers, 8¢-9¢.

HEIFERS—Good forequarters, heifers, 8¢-9¢.

CALF—Forequarters, heifers, 8¢-9¢.

GOAT—Good, 8¢-9¢.

BEEF CUTS—Tenderloins, filet, boneless, 12¢-13¢.

CHUCK—Cuts, 8¢-9¢.

SPINACH—Cuts, 8¢-9¢.

SHANK—Cuts, 8¢-9¢.

SHANKS—Cuts, 8¢-9¢.

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MUTTON—Spring lambs, 8¢-10¢.

Sheep, 8¢-10¢.

GOAT—Lamb, 8¢-10¢.